

HIGHLIGHTS

- More resources are required to meet critical needs of 138,000 people affected by earthquakes in Balochistan and help them to rebuild their lives and restore their communities.
- Nearly 21,000 people displaced from the Tirah Valley in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas earlier this year have returned home since mid-September, supported by Government authorities and humanitarian partners.



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More relief needed following Balochistan quakes

Government: 200,000 people affected in Awaran and Kech districts

Humanitarian partners continue to support the Government of Pakistan's response in Balochistan Province following two powerful earthquakes experienced in September, but more resources are needed to assist the affected people to rebuild their lives and restore their communities.

The first earthquake, measuring 7.7 on the Richter scale, struck on 24 September, while the second, a 6.8-magnitude earthquake hit on 28 September.

Findings of a coordinated assessment by 11 non-governmental organizations indicate the earthquakes have affected over 27,000 households with 138,000 people and damaged or destroyed nearly 20,000 houses. The Balochistan Provincial Disaster Management Authority estimates at least 30,000 families with 200,000 people have been affected by the earthquakes.

FIGURES

Affected by earthquakes in Sep 2013 (PDMA)	200,000
Returns to FATA in 2013 (FDMA)	102,000
Estimated IDPs in KP and FATA (UNHCR)	1 million
Estimated returnees to FATA since 2009 (FDMA)	1.4 million
Registered Afghan refugees (UNHCR)	1.6 million

2013 FUNDING

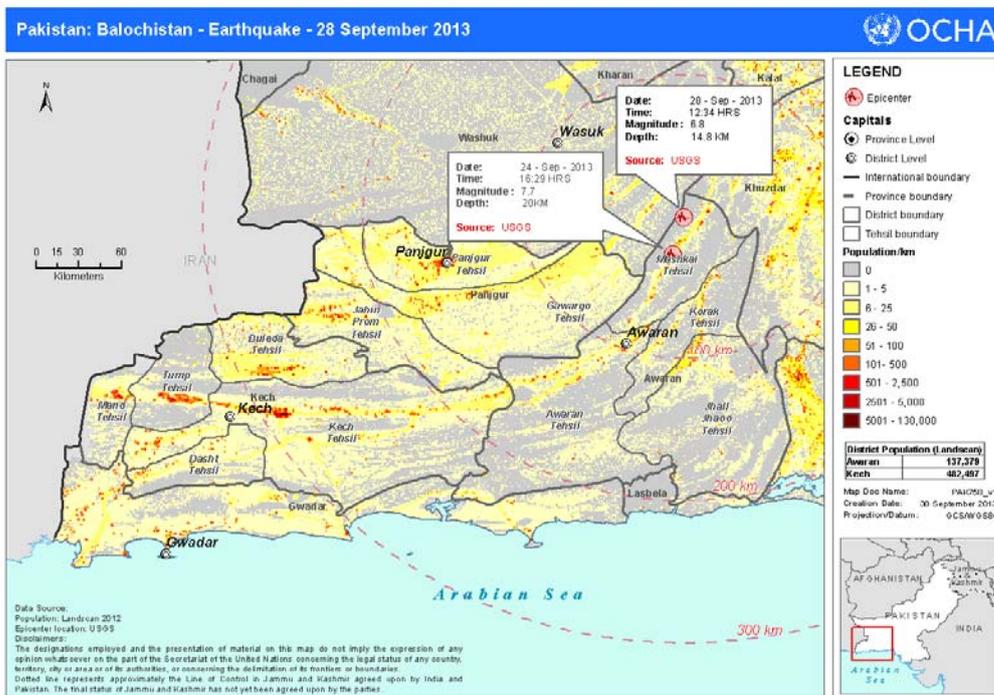
Complex Emergency in KP and FATA

90m* (US\$)
Required from October to December 2013 under the Humanitarian Operational Plan (HOP).

214m** of 330m (US\$)
Contributed up to September 2013 for projects in the HOP.

*Currently under revision.

**Includes a Government of Pakistan \$25 million in-kind donation of 150,000 metric tons of wheat.



According to the Government, Awaran and Kech districts have been hit the hardest and have therefore been prioritized for humanitarian response.

Despite resource constraints, humanitarian partners are providing critical assistance comprising food, non-food items, emergency shelter items, health care, water, sanitation and hygiene services.



Resources are urgently required to address residual needs in earthquake-affected areas and help people in need to rebuild their lives and restore their communities.

The table below summarizes relief assistance provided by the Government and humanitarian partners to date:

Cluster	Humanitarian response
Food Security	108,000 food ration/packs; 50 metric tons of high-energy biscuits; 2,000 bags of wheat flour.
Health	Emergency health kits for 100,000 people; mobile health clinics; 5,000 medical consultations; 14 tons of medicine; 450 delivery kits; 2,000 newborn baby kits; immunization services for 57,000 children.
Nutrition	Vitamin A supplementation for 24,000 children, complementary to measles vaccination and deworming tablets for 14,000 children. Guidelines on appropriate infant feeding in emergencies and a ban on blanket distribution of milk powder have been issued by the Department of Health and the Ministry of Health Services, Regulation and Coordination.
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	47,000 water bottles; 75,000 litres of water delivered via tankers; 900 water storage tanks; 140 water supply schemes restored; 7,500 hygiene kits; 30 new hand pumps; 1,800 pit latrines; 1,800 bathing places; 6,000 jerry cans; 1,500 buckets; 1,500 water coolers.
Shelter	51,000 tents, 18,000 blankets, 17,000 plastic mats and 25,000 mosquito nets, 7,000 NFI kits, 1,300 roofing kits, 6,000 winterization blankets, 1,000 kitchen sets, 1,000 solar lamps and 400 buckets.

Sources: Government authorities and humanitarian partners

In addition, the Protection Cluster is providing technical and capacity-building support to Government institutions in the context of existing partnerships, while the Education Cluster is seeking to cater to the emergency education needs of affected children through temporary learning centres.

Bureaucratic impediments and insecurity continue to hamper response

Bureaucratic impediments and insecurity are abiding concerns in the earthquake-affected areas, as humanitarian partners have difficulties in obtaining required permits, while armed groups have attacked teams conducting relief activities in the area. The humanitarian community continues to advocate to all parties to respond to the outstanding needs and facilitate humanitarian access to people in need and ensure the safety of aid workers providing life-saving assistance in the earthquake-affected areas.

21,000 IDPs supported to return to Tirah Valley

\$90 million required to aid IDPs and returnees until December

Government authorities and humanitarian partners have so far supported over 4,000 displaced families with nearly 21,000 people to return to their homes in the Tirah Valley in Khyber Agency in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) since mid-September. The returnees represent 26 per cent of the nearly 80,000 who were displaced earlier this year from the Tirah Valley following increased hostilities and security operations against non-state armed actors.

The returning families have received free transportation, monthly food packages, non-food items, drinking water, basic health-care, nutrition and protection services. Partners have monitored the returns to ensure they are voluntary, safe, dignified and in accordance with humanitarian principles. The returns facilitated through two centres in Jerma, Kohat District, and Sadda in Kurram Agency have been paused between 13 and 21 October due to Eid holidays. The table below provides statistics of families supported to return to the Tirah Valley as of 10 October:

Return centre	Camp families	Off-camp families	Total returnee families
Jerma, Kohat District	1	1,723	1,724
Sadda, Kurram Agency	456	1,977	2,433
Total	457	3,700	4,157

Source: UNHCR

Returnees require additional support to reconstruct destroyed or damaged houses, gain improved access to education, health care, water, sanitation and hygiene services, and improve their livelihoods and economic situation.

The returns remain slow due to security concerns, logistical challenges, limited access to the areas of origin, and resource constraints.

Although more than 1.4 million people have returned to their homes in FATA since 2009, including over 102,000 this year, 1 million people remain displaced in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) and FATA.

More resources are required to continue assisting the displaced people and support returnees to reconstruct destroyed or damaged houses, gain improved access to education, health care, water, sanitation and hygiene services, and improve their livelihoods and economic situation.

US\$90 million is required if the humanitarian community is to meet the needs of the IDPs and returnees until December.

Unmet needs remain in flood-affected areas

Vulnerability high following fourth consecutive year of floods

Significant humanitarian needs remain in areas where 1.5 million people were affected by monsoon floods this year, some for the fourth consecutive year.

Although the full picture of unmet needs remains unclear due to the lack of a joint assessment, unmet needs from previous flooding have been compounded by the limited response to this year's floods, leaving affected communities vulnerable.

In Punjab, where nearly 800,000 people were affected by the 2013 floods, over 1 million acres of crops were washed away, leaving the affected people vulnerable to food insecurity.

Increasing support to the agricultural sector could help affected households to quickly resume production and avert negative coping strategies such as selling their assets and becoming indebted.

Further, over 24,000 houses were damaged or destroyed in the province, creating huge shelter needs that need to be addressed urgently as the winter season approaches. Many water sources are reportedly contaminated, leading to skin and waterborne diseases, which could worsen if further assistance is not provided.

Flood-affected families in Balochistan lost over 8,000 head of cattle, a crucial source of food and income, during this year's floods. They require urgent support to help rebuild their herds, lives and livelihoods as quickly as possible.

Critical livelihoods support is also required in Sindh, where more than 500,000 people were affected by this year's floods, especially in riverine areas, where displacements occurred.

Humanitarian partners supporting early recovery from previous flooding diverted some resources to support people affected by this year's floods, especially in northern Sindh. More needs to be done to meet outstanding needs, especially shelter and livelihoods requirements, to help families break the cycle of flood and recovery.

The Emergency Response Fund has allocated \$4.7 million to Food, Shelter and WASH clusters to address outstanding needs and provide early recovery support in the flood-affected areas.

Given the outstanding needs, more resources will be required to rapidly provide assistance to vulnerable families in the flood-affected areas.

Battling dengue fever outbreak in Swat District

Over 7,000 dengue fever cases reported in Swat since September

Health workers are combating an outbreak of dengue fever in Swat District in KP, where more than 7,000 people have tested positive for the virus since September, according to WHO. At least 26 people have died from the disease, though the death toll could be higher.

About 1.5 million people affected by monsoon floods, many for the fourth consecutive year, are vulnerable and in need of continued assistance. The resources available to address their needs are insufficient.

More than 1,000 people a day are reportedly seeking dengue fever tests in Swat District. The outbreak began in mid-August and has spread to neighbouring districts.

Dengue fever is an infectious tropical disease caused by the dengue virus. Symptoms include fever, headache, muscle and joint pains, and skin rashes. It is transmitted by several species of mosquito within the *Aedes* genus.

The number of infections in Swat is on a par with an outbreak of dengue fever in 2011 in Lahore District, Punjab Province, in which more than 16,000 people were infected and over 250 died.

Dengue fever cases are common in areas where the disease is endemic in Pakistan. However, this year the disease has been reported in less endemic areas such as Swat, where more than 1,000 people are reportedly seeking dengue fever tests daily.

The table below illustrates dengue fever cases reported in four provinces during the past six months:

	May	June	July	August	September	October (1st week)
Balochistan	1		1	2	5	
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa				634	6,298	898
Punjab	3	5	1	45	194	67
Sindh	143	186	181	375	664	965

Source: WHO

As there is no commercially available vaccine against dengue fever, prevention is sought by reducing the habitat and the number of mosquitoes and limiting exposure to bites. WHO is supporting district health authorities to reinforce outbreak control activities in the district. It has provided over 3,500 long-lasting insecticide-treated nets and awareness material for display in health facilities, schools and public places.

The 2011 outbreak in Lahore was contained by the Punjab government thanks to an aggressive awareness campaign, targeted pesticide use, and stringent efforts to clear standing water. WHO has also trained health-care providers on WHO standard dengue case management and prevention guidelines and deployed technical staff experienced in dengue control to support health staff in Swat.

In Sindh and other provinces where the disease is endemic, dengue cases are trending downwards due to sustained response activities by WHO and health teams from the Government of Pakistan.

Envoy urges more support for humanitarian work

Enhancing efforts to assist people affected by natural disasters and conflict

The UN Secretary-General's Humanitarian Envoy Dr. Abdullah Al Matouq urged various stakeholders to continue supporting humanitarian activities in Pakistan during his mission to the country from 22 to 26 September.

Dr Al Matouq held fruitful discussions with humanitarian partners, donors and various Government officials, including Secretary of the Economic Affairs Division, Acting Secretary of Foreign Affairs, Chairman of the National Disaster Management Authority, Additional Chief Secretary of FATA, Director-General of the FATA Disaster Management Authority and National Coordinator of the Prime Minister's Polio Monitoring and Coordinating Cell.

In addition, Dr Al Matouq and the Minister of Religious Affairs co-hosted a workshop on "Islam and Aid," attended by various religious leaders and scholars, who endorsed the polio eradication programme and reiterated their support for the campaign.

Dr Al Matouq and the religious leaders and scholars called on all actors to facilitate humanitarian access to children in need of polio vaccinations and ensure the safety of aid workers providing life-saving assistance to protect children from diseases.

Envoy commends various stakeholders responding to current humanitarian crises across the country and urges more support for people in need.

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